

Slowly Getting Back to Normal

American Visitors Find Industrial Conditions Steadily Improving in England.

HIGH PRICES EVERYWHERE

But Taxes Are Higher, Too, Than Elsewhere in the World—London Hotels Are Crowded—How It Looks to Visitors.

London.—Economic, financial and industrial conditions are steadily improving in England, but are still a very long way from being normal. Strikes are the bane of progress here in these days. Demands for more pay and shorter hours follow each other in quick succession from the various branches of organized labor. The trouble is that less efficiency seems to follow the granting of each demand. Immediately one of the big industrial companies settles with one section of its employees by increasing wages, trouble starts in another section of the workers till the change goes all around. Then it begins again. Railway fares have been increased 50 per cent in the last three years. Now another 50 per cent is to be added to meet the increased cost of operation. New rolling stock, however, has been constructed and service has been improved considerably in the last year, and in spite of the high fares and dropping of excursion rates the trains are packed in every direction.

Hotels Are Crowded.
London still has an extra million population which drifted there during the war, and the hotels are so crowded that strangers who have not reserved rooms frequently have to drive about for hours seeking accommodation. Prices are high, especially for Americans, whom a part of the population seems to regard as traveling banks, always ready to hand out large sums when called upon. The hotel best known to Americans charges \$10 a day for a room without a bath, and New Yorkers staying there assert that it costs them \$24 a day for lodging, meals and tips.

Women smoke practically everywhere since the war. Some of the more daring now have special brands of cigars imported from Cuba for their use, and smoke them publicly in theaters and restaurants. In the streets Englishmen have become quite accustomed to having women ask them for a light.

The emancipated Englishwoman has invaded the men's territory to such an extent that on the golf links and in hotels you sometimes find notices have been posted which read: "This smoking room is reserved for gentlemen only."

One tobaccoist asserted recently that women now purchase three times

as many cigarettes as men and some are taking to pipes. Since the new tax has come into force the quality of cigarette tobacco has deteriorated, as has that of cigars, except the very high priced ones.

Most Heavily Taxed Nation.

English people are probably more heavily taxed than any other nation in the world at the present time. They do not complain of this, but protests are heard against arbitrary methods adopted by the government in dealing with excess profits and against the waste which still goes on in many departments. Food is very dear and there is still a scarcity of butter and sugar. Many people have become so accustomed to going without the latter during the war that they now dispense with it altogether, which is well from the point of view of economy, as sugar costs 30 cents a pound now and threatens to go higher. On June 15 the bakers were instructed not to make any more white bread, and it is considered possible that bread cranks will again be issued before Christmas, the big supplies of grain from Russia, promised by the soviet government to Lloyd George having proved to be purely mythical.

The housing problem in London, and in fact in all the large cities in England, is very serious and the suggestion that the authorities take over all empty houses, as they did in some towns during the war, is being agitated.

Shoes, hats and wearing apparel generally are very dear.

The Defense of the Realm Act—called Dora for short—is still in force in England, so it is impossible to buy candy, cigars, tobacco, matches, books and a great many other things after 8 p. m.

Public houses (saloons) are permitted to sell intoxicating liquors between 12 and 2:30 p. m., and between 6 and 10 p. m., which is two hours after the closing time for selling

Train Passes Over Baby; He Is Unhurt

Pensauken, N. J.—Commuters gasped in amazement when they saw two-year-old Robert Olt, almost unhurt, crawl across the rail after a train passed over him at the Union avenue crossing near the Pennsylvania station here.

The train had struck an automobile in which the child's mother, Mrs. Eva Olt, and brother, Frederick Olt, 13 years old, were riding with him. Both were thrown out and hurt.

Mrs. Olt, who was driving, saw those on the platform signaling wildly when she was nearly on the track and put on all speed to pass before the train. The three were thrown into the air, and the baby landed between the rails, directly in front of the locomotive. Mrs. Olt fell into a ditch and suffered fractures of both arms. Frederick was slightly injured.

chocolate. These hours are strictly observed, yet those engaged in the retail liquor trade are making more money than they ever did before on account of the high prices and the short drinking hours.

Khaki uniforms have disappeared from the streets and malined ex-soldiers can no longer be seen on crutches. Most of these have been furnished with artificial arms and legs and provided with jobs in government offices and banks. The women have left their war jobs on the motor buses and street cars, but there are still a few in the bookkeeping offices at the railways. England gradually is beginning to look normal.

May Soon Know as Much as Kids.

Lexington, Ky.—A mother, two sons and two daughters are students at the same school. Mrs. E. P. Gray, wife of a Chautauqua entertainer, brought her four children from Barboursville to attend school. Having nothing else to do, she decided to take a course in school herself.

Clears Up Exemption

Treasury Department Gives Explanation of Tax Problem.

Total Possible Exemptions From Federal Income Surtaxes and Profits Taxes Is \$160,000.

Washington.—The treasury department has explained the tax exemption limits on 4 and 4½ per cent Liberty bonds. The total possible exemptions from federal income surtaxes and profits taxes is \$160,000.

The following summary of tax exemptions limits was given:

Five thousand dollars in the aggregate of first and second 4s and 4½s, third and fourth 4½s, treasury and war savings certificates.

Thirty thousand dollars of first and second 4½s, and fourth 4½s until two years after expiration of war as fixed by presidential proclamation.

Thirty thousand dollars in aggregate of first and second 4½s, third and fourth 4½s, as to interest received after Jan. 1, 1919, until five years after termination of war.

Forty-five thousand dollars in aggregate of first and second 4s and 4½s and third 4½s, as to interest received after Jan. 1, 1918, until two years after termination of war this exemption conditional upon original subscription to and holding on date of tax return of two-thirds as many bonds of the fourth Liberty loan.

Twenty thousand dollars in aggregate of first and second 4s and 4½s, and third and fourth 4½s, as to interest received after Jan. 1, 1919, conditional upon original subscription to and holding at date of tax return of one-third as many bonds of Victory loan.

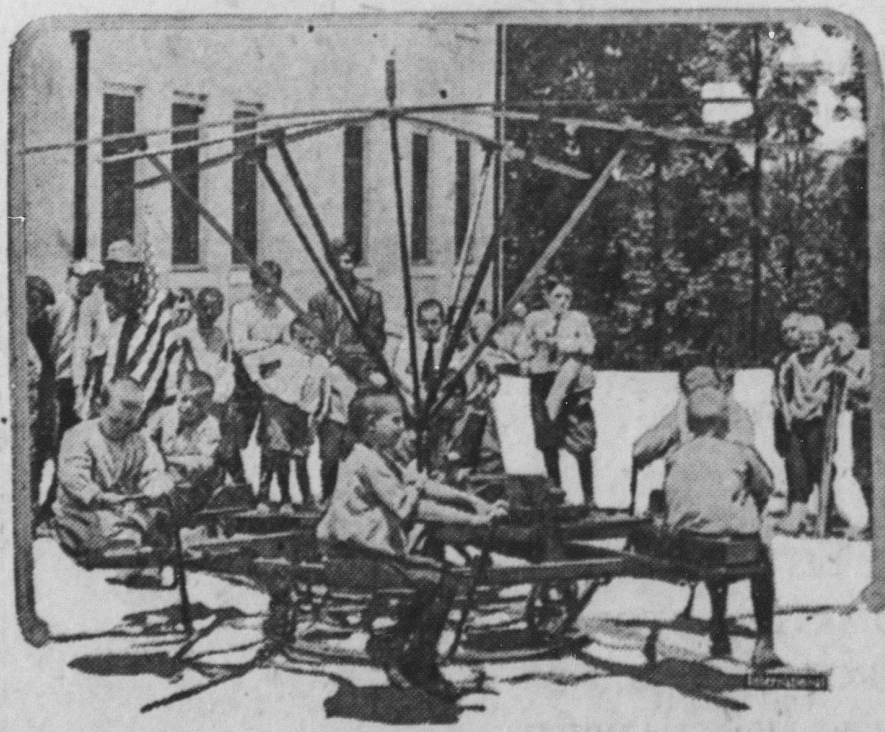
All Liberty bonds and Victory notes are exempt in hands of foreign holders.

Liberty 3½s and Victory 3½s are exempt from federal, state and local taxation except estate or inheritance taxes, and 4 and 4½ per cent Victories are exempt from state, local and normal federal income tax.

Playful Mule Devours His Master's Pay Check

Hazleton, Pa.—John Yudatis, a mule driver in the Onondaga mines of the Lehigh Valley Coal company, demanded that headquarters issue him a new pay check for \$32.38. He said his steed made a playful effort to bite him and caught the side of his coat, taking pocket, pay check and all in its teeth and swallowing the mouthful.

Crippled Children at Play



Several hundred crippled kiddies are being taught at the St. Charles Home for Crippled Children at Port Jefferson, New York, and how to become useful citizens in spite of their handicaps. The picture shows crippled boys playing on the carousel.

ARMY TO ENLIST ILLITERATES

Will Educate Them as Well as Aliens in New Order Issued by Secretary of War.

Washington.—On and after July 20 illiterates and non-English speaking citizens and aliens who declare their intention to become citizens will be permitted to enlist in the United States army for terms of three years. Instructions to this effect were issued by Secretary of War Baker.

These illiterates and non-English speaking recruits will be distributed to recruit educational centers, and in any case where enlistment is for special assignment, the recruit as soon as enlisted will be sent to that recruit educational center nearest to the organization for which he enlisted. Transfers will be made promptly upon the completion of the course at the educational center.

To carry out this policy recruit educational centers will be organized at Camp Jackson, Pike, Grant, Travis and Lewis, modeled after that at Camp Upton, New York.

TEACH U. S. HISTORY

Oxford University to Have Chair With American Professor.

Viscount Rothermere Makes \$100,000 Endowment in Memory of His Dead Son.

London.—Viscount Rothermere has given the University of Oxford £200,000 for the establishment and endowment of a professorship of history of the United States of America, which will be known as the Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth professorship of American history, in memory of his son, Capt. Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth of the Irish guards, formerly a compeer of Christ Church, who was killed in the war.

Under the conditions of the endowment the holder of the professorship must at the time of his election be a citizen of the United States. He shall hold the professorship for ten years

and shall be eligible for appointment for another ten years.

The appointment shall be made by an electoral board consisting of the American ambassador at the time of the election, who shall have a casting vote; the chancellor of the university, an elector nominated by the university and Lord Rothermere, and each succeeding holder of the viscountcy.

Lord Rothermere has endowed two other professorships at English universities. In 1910 he gave £20,000 to Cambridge university for the foundation of the King Edward VII. chair of English literature, and in 1918 he gave a similar sum to Cambridge as an endowment fund for the Vere Harmsworth professorship of naval history, in memory of his second son, who was killed in the battle of the Ancre.

A watchmaker's apprentice at play discovered the principle of the telescope.

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Take Time for Play.
Do not grow so keen on money making and business generally as to forget that "a little nonsense, now and then is relished by the wisest men."

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ALGIERS RICH IN SUNDAYS

Holy Day Observed Three Times a Week by Followers of Different Religions.

Although no fewer than three Sundays are observed each week in Algiers, writes a correspondent, only one could in any sense be called a "day of rest." For while the prophet enjoined his followers to attend worship on Sunday, he warned them against allowing it to become a day of idleness. An Arab or Moor, therefore, will frequently leave his wares unattended in his shop while he goes off to the mosque to pray, and he seldom has occasion to regret this course, cases of robbery being extremely rare. The French Sunday is typically French. The Jew alone makes his Sunday a day of rest, his religion forbidding anything save talking on that day. A walk through the Jewish quarter on the Sabbath will carry one's thoughts back many years. The picturesque groups at the street corners, in their rich, flowing robes, will recall many an Old Testament story learned in childhood, for the Jew in his oriental garb has a very different appearance from the Jew as we know him in the West.

FOR EVERY DAY, AS IT WERE

Soldier's Preference Was for Something of Which He Could Make General Use.

A British general who was commandant of a district in India had presented the prizes at the garrison sports, and was rather surprised when one of the prize-winners, a private in an infantry regiment, approached him a few days later and begged to know if he would be allowed to change his prize for something more useful.

"What was your prize?" asked the general.

In reply, the man produced a long case under his arm, and showed a handsome pair of meat carvers.

"Very nice, I am sure," said the general. "What do you want to change them for?"

"Well, you see, sir," replied the man, "I would rather have a knife and fork of the size to eat meat with."

—Edinburgh Scotchman.

The Morning After.
Wifey—It's your own fault. You ought to know better than to stay out till 2 o'clock with your good for nothing friends drinking ice cream soda.—Judge.

Apprehensive.
"Why do you speak so kindly of pajama drams?"
"Anything to dodge bathrobes."

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